

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 186461
ORIGIN AGRE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 /019 R

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SEC/USDA:GESCHUH
OICD/USDA:QWEST
FAS/USDA:GWHITE
FAS/USDA:LMEARS
FAS/USDA:SBROWN
ARA/ECA:SMYLES
FAS/USDA:EBEVIS
FAS/USDA:JMCDONALD

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R 242023Z JUL 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, BR

SUBJECT: U.S.-BRAZIL SUB GROUP ON AGRICULTURE MEETING,
JULY 5-6

REFERENCE: (A) STATE 155101, (B) STATE 180634, (C) BRASILIA
8115

1. EXPLORATORY MEETING, JULY 5-6, COVERED AGENDA ITEMS
PROPOSED IN REF. A. COPY OF DRAFT PROPOSAL WAS GIVEN TO
EACH PARTICIPANT. DISCUSSION ON PROPOSED DRAFT JOINT
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PAGE 02 STATE 186461

STATEMENT WAS LIMITED TO BROAD OBJECTIVES. BRAZILIAN SIDE
STATED THAT DELEGATION HAD NO AUTHORITY TO SIGN ANY
DOCUMENT AT MEETING. SUMMARY STATEMENT WAS CLEARED WITH
DELEGATION, BUT NOT SIGNED.

2. PROJECT INTERESTS WERE IDENTIFIED BY BOTH SIDES.
DISCUSSION REGARDING AN IMPLEMENTING MECHANISM FOR

FORMALIZING PROJECTS WAS HELD AT AN EXPLORATORY LEVEL. THE BRAZILIAN SIDE ENCOURAGED CONTINUATION OF ONGOING AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES ON AN INFORMAL BASIS UNTIL OTHER ARRANGEMENTS DECIDED.

3. FUNDING WAS NOT DISCUSSED IN ANY DETAIL. U.S. SIDE INDICATED CURRENT BUDGETARY LIMITATIONS, BUT AGREED THAT

ONGOING ACTIVITIES COULD CONTINUE ON AN INFORMAL BASIS.

4. UNIVERSITY EXCHANGES AND INTERESTS PRESENTED BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, BIFAD (BOARD FOR INTERNATIONAL FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT). ENERGY PROBLEMS RELATED TO AGRICULTURE WERE ALSO INTRODUCED AND FUNCTIONS OF NEW OFFICE OF ENERGY IN USDA WERE EXPLAINED. BOTH UNIVERSITY EXCHANGES AND ENERGY RESEARCH WERE VIEWED FAVORABLY BY BRAZILIAN SIDE.

5. USDA CONCURS WITH EMBASSY PROPOSAL THAT PARTICIPATION IN SUB GROUP SHOULD BE BROADENED, REF C. BRAZILIAN SIDE INDICATED PREFERENCE FOR A SINGLE SUB GROUP ON AGRICULTURE.

6. CHAIRMAN OF U.S. SIDE INTERESTED IN EXPEDITING ARRANGEMENTS FOR FIRST MEETING IN SEPTEMBER. IN VIEW OF EMBASSY AND BRAZILIAN COMMENTS ON PROPOSED DRAFT JOINT STATEMENT, USDA WILL CONSIDER LESS FORMAL DOCUMENT - E.G., LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 STATE 186461

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING - AND COULD REDRAFT DOCUMENT TO INCLUDE EMBASSY AND OFFICIAL BRAZILIAN WISHES.

7. HOWEVER, USDA RECOMMENDS THAT SUCH MEMORANDUM BE SIGNED BY COUNTERPARTS IN THE MINISTRY AND DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND BECOME THE IMPLEMENTING MECHANISM FOR ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS, RATHER THAN OPERATING SOLELY UNDER THE BROAD MANDATE OF THE 1976 U.S.-BRAZIL MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING.

8. DEPARTMENT IS ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN EMBASSY ASSESSMENT OF THE EXTENT OF FORMIN INVOLVEMENT IN THE SUB GROUP, AND EMBASSY'S RECOMMENDATION AS TO THE LEVEL OF DEPARTMENT PARTICIPATION. VANCE

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